

VZCZCXRO9493  
PP RUEHROV  
DE RUEHROV #0170 2261003  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 141003Z AUG 06  
FM AMEMBASSY VATICAN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0446  
INFO RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0004  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0009  
RUEHROV/AMEMBASSY VATICAN 0474

UNCLAS VATICAN 000170

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [AORC](#) [VT](#) [PARM](#)  
SUBJECT: HOLY SEE: NONPAPER ON UNIDIR

REF: SANDROLINI-LARREA EMAIL

¶1. Embassy received a fax message August 11 from Monsignor Pietro Parolin, the Holy See's Under Secretary for Relations with States (and acting Foreign Minister). The message included a nonpaper on UNIDIR, a subject which Parolin had raised earlier that day with Charge d'affaires (ref). Text of nonpaper follows in para 2.

¶2. Begin text of nonpaper:

There is currently much discussion in the United Nations about the need to reduce the budget of the Organization, especially through a reduction of curtailing of financing to the three Research Institutes of the UN.

One of those Institutes is the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), founded in 1980. It receives an annual subsidy from the UN of approximately USD 220,000.00. That amount is less than 15 percent of its operating budget and covers only the salaries of the Director of the Institute and his or her assistant.

The UNIDIR is an independent institute, whose Director is appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations; it enjoys great credibility in the area of disarmament on account both of its research and its independent status.

If the UN subsidies were to be taken away from the UNIDIR, then the independence itself of the UNIDIR would be placed at risk.

The Holy See shares these concerns and hopes that the financing of the UNIDIR will continue to come from the annual budget of the United Nations.

From the Vatican, August 11, 2006  
End text.

¶3. Embassy would appreciate guidance from Department on how to respond.

SANDROLINI